OFFICERS
JOHN H. HYBARGER
Chairman
SANDRA ARONBERG, M.D., M.P.H.
Vice-Chair

MEMBERS DOUGLAS S. DRUMMOND BRADLEY NUREMBERG



#### **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

# FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 974-1431 Fax (213) 633-5102

#### **MINUTES**

Thursday, March 17, 2005 Meeting 6:00 p.m. Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Room 374 A

### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

John Hybarger, Chairperson Douglas Drummond Sandra Aronberg

#### STAFF PRESENT

Martha Littlefield Peter Papadakis Garen Khachian

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Hyberger called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m.

# **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 13, 2005 MINUTES**

On motion of Commissioner Drummond, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously approved the January 13, 2005 minutes with the following correction: on page 3, under Public Comment, "Chairperson Hybarger noted L.A. City the California State Department of Fish and Game, not the County, exclusively handles the 'Fishing in the City' Program."

#### **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

Staff reported the account balance \$75,732.56 as of February 28, 2005 does not reflect the \$1,306.05 outstanding encumbrance. The Commission's actual fund balance is \$74,426.51.

On motion of Commissioner Drummond, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously approved receiving and filing the financial report.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairperson Hybarger met with the stakeholders group a couple of weeks ago and confirmed Forest Service money for the Bighorn Sheep was transferred elsewhere. No new financial support has been determined, but there is enough funding until August 2005. Stakeholders are seeking private funding through foundations and grants in addition to public funds. For future meetings, the stakeholders agreed to provide the funding for Steve Holl to attend.

Chanelle Davis reported the March surveys began, but due to inclement weather, will not be completed until the end of March 2005. Upon completion, Ms. Davis will provide a summary. Also, preliminary flights to locate sheep continue and no new mortalities have occurred since early February 2005. Chairperson Hybarger inquired if statistics will remain roughly the same regarding lamb recruitment and sheep mortalities.

Ms. Davis reported statistics are similar to last year's survey, and stated two-thirds of the

Los Angeles County Fish and Game Commission March 17, 2005 Minutes Page 2

Wonder Range was surveyed, but some parts of the area were not visited due to poor weather conditions. The helicopter will be available the end of March 2005 and more flights are anticipated before the contract expires. Commissioner Aronberg asked if weather plays a vital role in the habitat on the range. Ms. Davis reported research for the survey was affected, but the sheep and habitat are in good condition.

# PREPARATIONS FOR HOSTING THE MAY 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES FISH AND GAME COMMISSIONS

Staff reported confirmation was received from Sonke Mastrup, Wildlife and Inland Fisheries Division Deputy Director, California State Department Fish and Game will attend and is drafting an agenda for the conference.

On motion of Commissioner Drummond, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously approved requesting the Board of Supervisors authorize the Commission to host the May 2005 Conference of California County Fish & Game Commissions on May 13, 2005 and instruct County Departments to cooperate in making the conference a success.

Chairperson Hybarger noted developing a program irrespective of State Department Fish and Game is beneficial to the conference's overall success and creates a learning experience for attendees and encouraged Commissioners to provide ideas/themes.

RECREATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 TO PURCHASE CATFISH FOR THE JULY 8-9, 2005 'ALL NIGHT FAMILY FISHING DERBY' AT WHITTIER NARROWS REGIONAL PARK In response to Commissioner Aronberg inquiry regarding support of the event, Martha Moreno stated the State Department of Fish and Game provides monthly stocking of fish. In response to Chairperson Hyberger, Ms. Moreno reported all three lakes will be used for this event.

On motion of Commissioner Aronberg, seconded by Commissioner Drummond, the Commission unanimously approved recommending the Board of Supervisors approve the \$5,000 grant request to purchase catfish for the July 8-9, 2005 'All Night Family Fishing Derby' at Whittier Narrows Regional Park.

# <u>Matters not Posted (To be Briefly Discussed and Placed on the Agenda for a Future Meeting)</u>

Commissioner Aronberg asked if the County have a database to track of wild animals. Chairperson Hyberger stated wild/exotic animals fall are under State and Federal guidelines.

Staff reported Dr. Sabrina Drill, Natural Resources Advisor for Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, University of California Cooperative Extension will present regarding the effects of West Nile Virus on the wildlife and Jim Edmondson, Southern California Manager for Caltrout will discuss water issues surrounding Piru Creek and its impact on the area and more specifically the fish population at the next meeting. Chairperson Hybarger requested staff invite the new Fish and Game Warden for the County to the next meeting.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Davis thanked the Commission for the condolence card and offered to present a summary of the 2004-2005 Bighorn Sheep Capture season at the July 2005 meeting.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Los Angeles County Fish and Game Commission March 17, 2005 Minutes Page 3